

A Mail will close.

For Swallow, Anway, and Pocchown.—Per *Frederick*, on Saturday next, the 7th inst., at 11 a.m.

MATTERS BY THE "EMERALD."
The "Contract Packet," *"EMERALD,"* will be dispatched with the usual Mails for Europe, &c., on WEDNESDAY, the 11th March, at 7 a.m., and the Post-Office will be open for the reception of Ordinary Letters, Letters for registration, Newspapers, Books, &c., until 5 p.m. on the 10th March; Letters, &c., may be posted in the night boat from 7 p.m. on the 10th March until 5 a.m. on the following morning.

All letters posted between 5 and 6 a.m. on the 11th March, will be deliverable, in addition to the usual postage, with a *Letter Fee* of 1d. per sheet.

The latest time for posting Letters at this Office is 6 a.m., and for Newspapers, Books, or Patterns 5 a.m. on the 11th March.

Further, Late Letters (but Letters only) addressed to the United Kingdom and Colonies will be accepted, up to 10 a.m. on the 11th March, and may be posted on board the *Packet* from 6.30 to 6.50 a.m., on payment of a *Letter Fee* of 4d. per sheet, in addition to the postage, after which no Letters can be received.

Foreign stamps should be placed on the envelope, and the name of the correspondence, except in cases where they may be placed in payment of *Letter Fees*, when the stamp or stamps representing the *Letter Fee* should be placed on the lower left hand corner.

R. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General.

It is hereby notified for general information that under the provisions of a new Postal Convention, which has been concluded with the United States Post Office, the rates of postage chargeable upon Correspondence from Hongkong forwarded through the United Kingdom to the United States of America will hereafter be as follows, viz:—

BOOK A LETTER.

VID SOUTHAMPTON.

Under 1 lb.	1 lb. and not over 2 lb.	2 lb. and not over 4 lb.	4 lb. and additional
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	1 lb.	2 lb.	3 lb.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.

VID MANCHESTER.

Under 1 lb.	1 lb. and not over 2 lb.	2 lb. and not over 4 lb.	4 lb. and additional
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	1 lb.	2 lb.	3 lb.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.

BOOK PACKETS AND PATTERNS may also be forwarded by way of Hongkong to the United States by notice of the United Kingdom. The postage on such Packets will be as follows, viz:—

FOR A BOOK PACKET OR A PACKET OF PATTERNS.

VID SOUTHAMPTON.

Under 4 lb.	4 lb. and not over 8 lb.	8 lb. and not over 12 lb.	12 lb. and additional
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.

VID MANCHESTER.

Under 4 lb.	4 lb. and not over 8 lb.	8 lb. and not over 12 lb.	12 lb. and additional
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.
1 s. 6 d.	2 s.	3 s.	4 s.

For a Newspaper or Price Current, via Southampton, 5 Cents.

For a Newspaper or Price Current, via Manchester, 8 Cents.

Payment of the postage is compulsory in each case.

Special attention is directed to the following follow-up Regulations, which will be strictly enforced.

AS REGARDS BOOKS.

A Book Packet may contain any number of separate Books, Almanacs, Maps, or Prints, and any quantity of paper, stationery or parchment, (so the exclusion of letters whether sealed or open), and the Books, Maps, Paper, &c., may be, in letter printed, written, or plain, or any mixture of the three.

All legitimate writing, mounting, or covering of the same or of a portion thereof, will be allowed, whether such binding be loose or stitched, as also rollers in the case of prints, maps (whether of paper or otherwise), in the case of books, and in short wherever it is necessary for the safe transmission of literary or

Every book packet must be either without a cover, or in a cover open at the ends or sides.

It must not contain any letter, open or sealed, nor any sealed manuscript or card.

No packet must exceed two feet in length, breadth or depth, according to these dimensions.

It cannot be forwarded through the Post.

AS REGARDING PATTERNS.

They must not be of injurious value. This rule excludes all articles of a saleable nature, and indeed, whatever may have a value of use or ornament, apart from its utility as a pattern; and the quantity of any material sent ostensibly as a pattern must not be so great that it can fairly be considered as having on this ground an intrinsic value.

There must be a writing or mark other than the address of the person for whom the packet is intended; it must mark rank and numbers; and proofs of the articles; otherwise the Packet will be detained or forwarded charged as an unpaid letter.

The Patterns must be sent in covers open at the ends, so as to be easy of examination. Samples, however, of seeds, drugs, and so forth, which cannot be sent in open covers, may be enclosed in bags of linen or other material, tied at the neck; care is desired that they are not readily be opened, even although they be transparent; must not be used for this purpose.

Non-compliance with this rule will also subject the packet to be detained or forwarded as an unpaid letter.

The decision of the Postmaster General as to the eligibility of any Packet, pattern, or sample contained therein, to be forwarded under these regulations, will be final and conclusive.

The Packets or the contents thereof must not contain any indecent, scandal or otherwise censored against inspection.

In all other respects the general regulations of the Book Post will apply to the Pattern Post. Under these regulations, in order to prevent any interruption to the regular transmission of letters, a Packet of Patterns may, when it is necessary, be kept back for the following Month, by which, in the ordinary course, it would be forwarded.

The rule which forbids the transmission through the Post of any article likely to injure

person of any Office of the Post Office is of course applicable to the Eastern Post Office, and no packet containing anything of the kind will be stopped and not sent to its destination, articles posted as Letters, and have been detained for weeks for the Post, viz. Metal boxes, porcelain and China fruit vegetables, bunches of flowers, cuttings of plants, spurs, hair ornaments, medals, pins, pieces of machinery, and painted instruments, samples of wood, samples in glass boxes, pieces of glass, acids of various kinds, curry combs, copper and steel engraving, plates and confectionery of all kinds.

F. W. MITCHELL,
Postmaster General.

General Post Office,
Hongkong 6th February, 1868.

STEAM FERRY
SINGAPORE, SUMATRA DE GALLE,
ADEN, SUED, NAUZA, MAHSEIDEN,
AND SOUTHEASTION.
ALSO
BOMBAY, MADRAS AND ORIENTAL STEAM
NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship
"HOLLAND" Captain G. M. EMMETT, with Her
Majesty's Mail, Passengers, Stores and Cargo,
will leave this for the above places on WED-
NESDAY the 11th MARCH, 1868, at 7 a.m.
Cargo will be received on board until 12 noon
on the 10th; Passengers until 4 p.m. on the 10th; and
Parcels until noon on the 10th March.

For the Companies' respective Agents, the Pas-

and Havre
PACKAGES ARE REQUIRED.

A written Declaration of the Contents and Value of the Packages for the Overland Route as required by the Egyptian Government, and must be delivered by the Shippers to the Company's Agents, with the Bills of Lading or with Parcels and the Company do not hold themselves responsible for any Detention or Prejudice which may happen from the inaccuracies in such declaration.

Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bill of Lading.

W. MACAULAY, Superintendent,
Penang and Oriental Steam Navigation Co. Ltd., Hongkong 22th February, 1888/1890

